

A YOUTH suicide crusader has demanded to meet with Prime Minister Julia Gillard to discuss the Territory's indigenous child crisis.

Balunu Foundation boss **David Cole** and **Aboriginal** elder Rex Granites, of Alice Springs, will head to Canberra today.

Mr Cole said his mission -- after Balunu was refused continued funding from the NT Government -- was to pitch the benefits of culture-based programs for "at risk" kids at a federal level.

"It is ludicrous that we are being overlooked," he said.

"Our approach for kids struggling with crime, suicide and identity crises is the only thing reaching them."

Mr Cole said he contacted the Prime Minister's office on Monday.

"I told them we would be coming on Thursday or Friday," he said.

#### **CITATION (AGLC STYLE)**

'Kids' crusader wants PM's ear', *Northern Territory News* (online), 6 Feb 2013 007 <<https://infoweb-newsbank-com.ezproxy.lib.uts.edu.au/apps/news/document-view?p=AUNB&docref=news/1444641BB0293170>>